



# OREGON STATE BAR

## Board of Governors

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**Meeting Date:** March 8, 2019  
**From:** Helen M. Hirschbiel  
**Re:** Proposed Revisions to Strategic Functions and Goals

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### Action Recommended

Waive the one meeting notice requirement and revise the OSB Bylaws to reflect the new Strategic Functions and Goals as set forth below.

### Background

On February 22, 2019, the OSB Board of Governors (BOG) adopted the following new strategic functions and goals:

**FUNCTION #1 – REGULATE THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LEGAL SERVICES**

**GOAL:** Protect the public by ensuring competence and integrity in the legal profession.

**FUNCTION #2 – SUPPORT THE JUDICIARY AND IMPROVE THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

**GOAL:** Protect and advance the quality, integrity, and impartiality of the judicial system.

**FUNCTION #3 – ADVANCE A FAIR, INCLUSIVE, AND ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE SYSTEM**

**GOAL:** Foster trust in, respect for, understanding of, and access to the justice system.

The BOG should now amend OSB Bylaw 1.2 as follows to reflect the new functions:

### Section 1.2 Purposes

The mission of the Oregon State Bar is to serve justice by promoting respect for the rule of law, by improving the quality of legal services and by increasing access to justice.

The Bar fulfills that mission through the following functions:

(A) We ~~are a regulatory body, protecting the public by ensuring the competence and integrity of lawyers~~ regulate the legal profession and improve the quality of legal services.

(B) We ~~are a partner with the judicial system, supporting and protecting the quality and integrity of the judicial system~~ support the judiciary and improve the administration of justice.

(C) We ~~are a professional organization, promoting the professional excellence of bar members~~ advance a fair, inclusive, and accessible justice system.

~~(D) We are advocates for diversity, equity and inclusion within the legal community and the provision of legal services.~~

~~(E) We are champions for access to justice, fostering the public's understanding of and access to legal information, legal services, and the justice system.~~



March 6, 2019

Governor Kate Brown  
State Capitol Building  
900 Court St. NE, Suite 254  
Salem, OR 97301

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Dear Governor Brown:

The Oregon State Bar's Appellate Screening Committee has completed its review of the candidates who have applied for appointment to the Oregon Court of Appeals and who agreed to disclose their application materials to the OSB. Pursuant to OSB Bylaws, the Committee has conducted an in-depth review of each application and candidate, including in-person interviews of all candidates who opted to participate in the process.

The Committee's review process is intended to provide you with relevant, reliable, and descriptive information to help inform your appointment decision. As instructed by OSB Bylaws, our recommendation of candidates as "highly qualified" is based on "the statutory requirements of the position, as well as information obtained in the review process, and the following criteria: integrity, legal knowledge and ability, professional experience, cultural competency, judicial temperament, diligence, health, financial responsibility, and public service." A "highly qualified" recommendation is intended to be objective, and the Committee's decision not to identify any specific candidate as "highly qualified" should not be viewed as a finding that the person is unqualified. A "highly qualified" recommendation is intended to reflect the candidate's overall ability to serve on the court.

The Board of Governors is pleased that members from around the state, including a public member, serve on the Appellate Screening Committee. We also deeply appreciate the assistance and leadership of your counsel and your office during this process.

Pursuant to OSB Bylaw 2.703, the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors\* has approved the following list of candidates deemed "highly qualified" for appointment to the Oregon Court of Appeals:

CANDIDATES NAMES TO BE INSERTED ONCE APPROVED BY THE BOARD

The Board of Governors appreciates that there were many qualified candidates for the positions and that the review process presented a challenging task. According to OSB Bylaw 2.700, the list of the “highly qualified” candidates will be posted on the OSB webpage. Also pursuant to OSB Bylaws, we will gladly respond to any requests from your office as to whether certain other candidates meet a “qualified” standard.

Sincerely,

Christine R. Costantino  
OSB President

Thomas C. Peachey  
OSB Board of Governors  
Appellate Screening Committee Chair

cc: Misha Isaak, General Counsel, Office of the Governor

\*Please note that BOG member Liani Reeves has abstained from all discussion and votes related to the review of judicial candidates.